certain circumstances; altering the requirements for when certain hospitals may close under certain circumstances; establishing the classification of eritical access limited service hospitals for certain health care facilities; establishing certain operating standards for critical access hospitals requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to adopt certain regulations; requiring the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to make certain calculations relating to certain hospital's licensed bed capacity and to delicense certain excess beds by a certain date; requiring certain hospitals to include certain information in a certain report to the Health Services Cost Review Commission; altering certain notice requirements for when a person proposes to close or delicense certain hospitals; requiring certain notice requirements for when a person proposes to convert certain hospitals; altering the Maryland Hospital Bond Program to permit the Health Services Cost Review Commission to provide for the payment of all or any portion of the closing costs for certain hospitals that convert to a critical access hospital under certain circumstances; altering the Maryland Hospital Bond Program to clarify the method used for determining a hospital's bond indebtedness that will be included in the Program the amount of public body obligation that qualifies for payment under the Program; authorizing the Maryland Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority to proceed against certain entities under certain circumstances; requiring the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System to develop certain protocols; repealing certain obsolete provisions requiring the Secretary to conduct a certain study; making certain technical and stylistic changes; defining certain terms; altering certain definitions; and generally relating to hospital capacity and cost containment.

## BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 15-103(b)(28)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section 19-101(f), 19-115, 19-201, <del>19-221,</del> 19-301, and 19-307(a)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

## BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 19-307.1 and 19-307:2

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

## BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article Health General